

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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September 12, 2000

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers
All County Medi-Cal Program Specialists/Liaisons
All County Public Health Directors
All County Mental Health Directors

Letter No.: 00-48

STATUS OF INCOME LIMITS FOR THE SECTION 1931(b) PROGRAM

This is to advise counties that no further changes in the Section 1931(b) income limits are contemplated through the year 2000.

Since March 1, 2000, the Section 1931(b) program has had two income limits: (1) the original Section 1931(b) "cash-based" income limit, and (2) a new income limit set at the federal poverty level (FPL). The cash-based limit for the Section 1931(b) program is currently used only for purposes of determining eligibility for recipients in circumstances in which the \$240 and one-half deduction was applied. The FPL income limit is currently used for purposes of determining the eligibility of applicants for the Section 1931(b) program, and for purposes of determining the eligibility of Section 1931(b) recipients in circumstances in which the \$240 and one-half income deduction was not applied.

State law requires that the Section 1931(b) program ensure Medi-Cal coverage of families who could have qualified under the rules of the former Aid to Families with Dependent Children program and ensure Medi-Cal coverage of families who do, or could, qualify as recipients of the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program. Under the Section 1931(b) income limits in place effective March 1, 2000, Section 1931(b) program coverage of these required groups is ensured without any further increases in the Section 1931(b) income limits, notwithstanding the October 2000 increases in the CalWORKs income limits. Therefore, the requirements of state law are met without any further increases in the Section 1931(b) income limits beyond those which were effective March 1, 2000.

If you have questions regarding this subject matter, please call Dave Rappolee of my staff at (916) 657-0163.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Glenda Arellano, Acting Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

